

Appl. No. 09/850,338
Amdt. Dated January 25, 2005
Reply to Office action of October 6, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P13427-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3021

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1-15 and 17-26; claim 16 has been canceled and claims 27-36 have been added. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-15 and 17-36 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 4-13, 16, 20-24 and 26 were objected to as to being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim or a claim refers to two set of claims to different features. The improper form has been corrected.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 25 and 26 have been corrected according to the suggestions.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 17-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter as the invention. Claim 17 has been amended to distinctly claim the subject matter and since the depending claims, 18-24, also contain the amended subject matter, these claims also distinctly claim the subject matter. The Applicants have corrected the deficiencies in claims 17-24 and the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17-24 are now allowable.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-9 and 14-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Elgamal (US 5,671,279). The Applicants have cancelled claim 16 rendering the rejection of that claim moot. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of the remaining claims.

Independent claims 1, 14 and 25 have been amended to distinguish the Applicant's invention over the Elgamal reference. Elgamal appears to disclose a method for the authorization of transactions. However, Elgamal's method is adapted to fixed networks in which the transmission of large amounts of data is possible (Col.7, lines 1-45 and col. 8, lines 1-17).

The Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to amended independent claim 1.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for authorizing transactions in a communication system, wherein a user equipment (UE) receives an authorization request for a content which is to be authorized with an identifier (H) of a transaction and wherein the UE replies to the request with an authorization response, said method comprising the steps of:

calculating the identifier (H) from the content,
transmitting the authorization request with the identifier to the UE,
receiving the authorization request,
determining an indication for the authorization request,
output of the indication by the user equipment (UE),
waiting for an input to approve or disapprove the authorization request,
signing the identifier (H) using a signing function, and
sending the authorization response according to the input, wherein
an approving authorization response comprises the signed identifier (H).

The Applicant respectfully submits that the Elgamal reference does not disclose (directly or inherently) at least the following features present in Claim 1 (similar features can be found in independent Claim 14 and 25: calculating the identifier from the content and transmitting the identifier with the authorization request.

The Applicant's invention, as currently claimed, discloses a method for the authorization of transactions, which is particularly adapted to a wireless environment

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with low data transfer rates (p. 3, para. 3 and 4). An identifier for an authorization request is calculated from the content, for which the authorization request is sent, before transmission to the user equipment and that an indication for the authorization request is determined for display to the user. The indication is different from the identifier. It should be emphasized that the indication differs also from the content for authorization (p. 4, 2nd and last paragraph, p.7, 1st paragraph), i.e. the authorization request does not contain the complete content for authorization.

Elgamal does not disclose calculating an identifier representing the content for authorization before transmission of the request to the user equipment. In the case of the Elgamal reference, the whole content for authorization is transmitted. Therefore, an identifier calculated from the content is unnecessary. In the Applicant's invention, if only the calculated identifier is transmitted content may be omitted, totally or partly, from the authorization request. In contrast, it is not possible to omit the content in the case of Elgamal.

It is not necessary in the case of Elgamal to determine an indication for the authorization request because the content for which the authorization is requested is simply transmitted and displayed.

The indication of the present invention represents at most a part of the content for which an authorization is requested. This allows for a low data volume to be transmitted while the identifier calculated from the content ensures that the authorization request represents the total content for authorization. Only the calculated identifier ensures the relation of the authorization to the content (p.4, lines 1-4).

As between Claim 1 and the Elgamal reference, the Applicant submits that amended independent claims 14 and 25 contain limitations analogous to those found in Claim 1. For the above given reasons the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 14 and 25 are patentable over Elgamal. This being the case, claims 2-9, 15, 17-24 and 26, which depend from the respective amended independent claims 1, 14 and 25 contain the same limitations. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of claims 1-15 and 17-26.

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Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 10-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elgamal in view of "WMLScript Crypto Library" (WMLScript). The Applicant has amended claim 1 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. Amended claim 1 now contains elements not found in the Elgamal reference; i.e., calculating an identifier from content and sending the identifier with the authorization request.

The WMLScript reference is cited for a server sending an authorization request after receiving a message from a further entity. However, the WMLScript reference does not supply the elements missing from the Elgamal reference. Claims 10-13 depend from amended claim 1 and recite further limitations in combination with the novel elements of amended independent claim 1 as discussed above. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10-13.

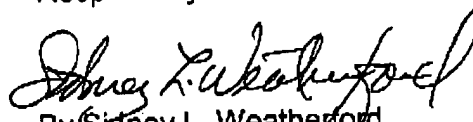
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,


By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024

(972) 583-8656
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com